HUGH LYON EX-PLAINS HIMSELF TO TOBACCO GROWERS order to handle such an immense

Managers and Employes Wait.

ASKS FELIX G. EWING PERTINENT QUESTIONS

Lyon County Growers and Caldwell County Committee Meet

At Kuttawa December 12 to Take Definite Action.

Eddyville, Ky., Dec. 3, 1908, I directors, and if by being associated, gardless of the most atter contempt of association must be lacking. county growers that day, regardless "we do not" doesn't seem to prove it. the fact that Lyon county growers tions adopted at a meeting in Kutpreciate the boundits that should be as respect? derived from organization and associare proud that we are fearless enough ments with a three years contract to

for theirs? We produce the tobacco make it definite before December 12th

give each of us \$100 00 of his own ation. money, with no assurance of his getrule that went reverse.

tions he might prove it by getting in other counties. Isn't that associ-

though our petition for a sale was same quality in another county; cer- within the next fortnight, not with all respect and consideration tainly all buyers are not in a trust, of association principles, but possi- if so this plan sont work. If the bly not in accordance with rules and Planters' Protective association con-

Mr. Ewing stated in Kuttawa No. Question No. 7-The association tors seem to think this idea merely vember 7th would be shown me and may not want us to do what I ask in my resolutions adopted by Lyon this question but merely an answer

of the many nowind and unpleasant | Question No. 8 Mr. Ewing may statements as to my views, regardless have as much consideration for us as that many of my statements have for any other county but when he been misquoted, and our position stated that most utter contempt misrepresented 'I certainly admire would be shown me and our resoluhave sense enough to know and ap tawa Nov. 7th, can we construe that

Question No. 7 The association ation, but do not appreciate the re- may be ready to carry out all its ob. suits that we have received from the ligations to the growers but it doesn't association management this year and seem pleased to back up its stateto resolve not to submit to such growers, and a \$250,00 fine to violate

as fair that the growers get their was asked would and not could, the fifteen millions of pounds of the 1908 money first, and let the managers association grant us our petition. and employee of the association wait. The answer is not to the point, please and are last ones to reap the fruit of Lyon county growers have been done a great injustice by having our posi-Question No. 2-If the growers tion misrepresented, for when we desire a report of the business and took up our matters with the associtransactions of the association, it ation managers, we did not feel at doesn't seem inconsistent with asso- liberty to take up grievances for ciations' principles that such a report other counties, but if the system we be made public. Some people seem asked for is satisfactory and profitato think the growers know too much ble to us, we naturally felt the same system will be satisfactory and pro-Question No. 3 As we have a fitable to growers of other counties. part of 1907 and all of 1908 crop on And if the system is agreeable to hand, and Mr Ewing wants us to other counties and they do not take sign an obligation to deliver three interest enough in their affairs to more crops to the association, and take action, then they should not its pro rata of the fifteen million in the different counties of the allow prizors, inspectors, warehouse- blame us for wanting to do what is pounds. men and others get their pay first, best for ourselves. For at a glance and when he was asked as to the sale anyone with a fair conception of a and movement of the crop, he re- business proposition, can readily see marked that the board of directors that our petition is with all respect promise nothing but to do its best and consideration for Mr. Ewing, without fear or favor. Then why and the principles that should be would it be impracticable for him to embraced in organization and associ- day, Dec. 9th, at I o'clock p. m.

promise nothing but to do our best place the same price on the same Dec. 11th, at 1 o'clock p. m. without fear or favor. It's a poor quality, no matter where it grows, Ouestion No. 4-If Mr. Ewing is all in the county, not to sell the p. m. as sure today as he was last week county crop till we can obtain the that the association will live long same price for our tobacco that is tention by reiteration, to be held at mers and growers of tobacco it is beunder present methods and condi-placed on the same quality of tobacco one o'clock p. m. regulations adopted by the board of trolled all the black tobacco, and

would not sell one hoghead till all wouldsell, then we would have a union for sure, but that would destroy competition, except on a very large scale, and if the American Tobacco Company is discived, then the buyers would have to form another trust in

When the tobacco is sold, we ask that a grader be at each re civing house, grade the tobacco on delivery organization or association expenses, and pay the growers the remainder on the spot, which will save the growers inspection charges, insurance, and interest on what money may be advanced him, and other items. And allow the buyer to have some voice in the handling of what he purchased and cause an expenditure of thousands of dollars for labor in small towns of which they are now

If this position isn't fair, isn't practicable, business like and with all respect and consideration for growers of other sounties, and for principles of organization and association, well appreciate a comment from good, honest, hard working growers; we know that objections are in order from persons expecting positions at the expense of the growers To Every Tobacco Grower - Re- we are not benefited, some principles through the present management of the association. The board of direca flight of fancy, or a road to the moon built of tissue paper rails, but it appears Caldwell and Christian county growers consider the idea more substantial.

(Continued on page eight.)

OFFER MADE FOF FIFTEEN MILLION POUNDS TOBACCO.

The Executive Committee will, at mass meetings in each of the five counties of the Stemming District Association, the first of said meetings to be held at Madisonville next Tuesday and the last at Henderson next Catarday, submit to members As to my question No. 1 .- Isn't it | Question No. 10 -- The question certain offers for in the aggregate, crop of tobacco.

> The offer comes from several buyers and the committee has seven or accept or reject the offer. Mean

the tobacco to be classified in four 000 and the producers interested grades at prices following:

For the first grade \$10, \$10, \$5, For the second grade, \$9, \$9, \$4, dissatisfaction among farmers who For the third grade, \$8, \$8, \$3, have pooled their tobacco in the as

declared open revolt against the presings of members to the several coun-

Webster county, a Dixon, Wednes- loway, Graves and Ballard are badly

Our proposition is to compare our day, Dec. 10th, at I o'clock p. m. ting it back, other than that we tobacco with that of other counties, Union county, Morganfield, Friday, in the association, that if conducted

being conducted to benefit the far-

The main of the meetings is to ulators and usurers; that instead of ation? By having the privilege to have members advise the committee selling when the weed was in demand Question No. 5 - We know that sell one county would invite competi- whether or not to accept the price, at paying prices the officers and The Planters' Protective association each director has a voice in the man- tion among buyers and allow inde- For let it be clearly understood the agents of the association have been agement of the association but it pendent buyers to purchase one qual- committee is inclined to the opinion negligent in their duties and have ity of tobacco in one county, at the that practically all the pooled tobac- allowed the crops of 1906 7 to remain Question No. 6 .- The answer is, as same price the trust can buy the co can be sold at the prices named on hand until the good showing of

derstood after members shall have approved the price, if indeed they so

(Continued on page eight.)

PLANTERS PROTECTIVE ASSOCIATION ASSAILED IN SENSATIONAL SUIT

Give Growers Their Money First, Let as per established prices, subtract Allegation Made That the Business of the Association is Being Managed to Great Loss of Members

OFFICERS CHARGED WITH WRONGFULLY **DIVERTING THE ASSOCIATIONS' MONEY**

Negligence, Malfeasance and Fraud on Part of Officersand Others is Charged by Plaintiffs to the Suit

Receiver is Asked For That Associations' Business May be Settled and Confidence in body Restored.

Wherefore, plaintiffs pray that the defendants as the officers and agents a d employes sued herein each be compelled and required to surrender all sums of money or tobacco which he they or it may have belonging to 'The Planters Protective Association of Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia," together with all sums which may have been wrongfully diverted from the treasury of said association with the knowledge or consent of such officers or agents or employee, under his control which have been looses to said association, and these plaintiffs by reason of negligence, malfeasance and fraud of said officers defendants herein, and for a settlement and accounting of all the business of said association under the present management of the officers of said association under and according to such orders as may be made by said court, and for the appointment of a receiver to take charge of the business and affairs of the defendant, "The Planters' Protective Association of Kontucky, Tenn essec and Virginia " until same can be settled so far as the present management is concerned, and confidence in said association restored and that said association may be preserved; for a distribution of all moneys belonging to the plaintiffs and and those for whose use and benefit for which this action is prosecuted; that it be reouired to refund to these plaintiffs and all other members, all usurious interest collected from them within one year before the institution of this action, and that all debts which the defendant, "The lanters' Protective Association of Kentucky, Tennessee and Virginia" now hold against the members of said association for whose use and benefit this action is prosecuted be purged of all usurious interest embraced in each of such debts and obligation, and that this action be referred to the receiver and commissioner of this court for an acounting and settlement, and for all proper and general and equitable relief.

The largest lawsuit from every suit before the court. standpoint ever brought in the courts State of Kentucky, was filed to the a large law and order league in our eircuit court Wednesday afternoon by eight days to figure on it, and then Attorneys Oliver, Sherill & Reeder on behalf of several farmers of this while the committee will consult the county against the Planters' Protectmembers in mass meetings assembled ive Association of Virginia, Tennessee and Kentucky. The amount The offer is substantially as follows: involved in the suit is fully \$15,000

Black Patch." Lyon, Caldwell,

ent order of things and talk of forms

ive counties. Some farmers of Cal-

dissatisfied, but as yet hav taken no

and Marshall tobacco growers believe

along lines originally planned it is

a good thing, but they allege the

orginal plan has been departed from

that instead of the association affairs

ing used to further the end "of spec-

the 1908 crop has depreciated the

value of all tobacco, all to the pre-

judice and damage of the complain-

ants and 5,000 others who are inter-

ested in the subject matter of the

are 30,000, or more. The suit is the outgrowth of the

For the fourth grade, \$7, \$7, \$3, sociation at the way in which their The committee to apportion, as product has been handled. The situaequitably as maybe, to each county tion has been met in various ways

Christian and possibly others have Times and places for mass meet-

Hopkins county at Madisonville, ing loose leaf pools in their respect Tuesday, Dec. 8th, at 1 o'clock p m

definite steps for relief. McCracken Crittenden county, Marion, Thurs-

Henderson county, at Henderson. not to sell one crop till we can sell Saturday, Dec. 12th, at 1 o'clock

All above meetings, to fix the at-

And let it further be clearly un-

One of the plaintiffs in speaking

of McBracken county, if not in the of the suit brought said: "We have community in which we discuss matters pertaining to the general good, we have had this affair in mied for Fuller, each in their own right, and some time, we have closely noted sor the use and benefit of 5,000 oththe effect of petitions and protests sent from other counties to the officials of the association. At last we have come to the conclusion that the fault is not with our association and its plans but with our officials and involved in this action hereinafter their schemes and our only remedy is the courts of justice, where we hope to get relief in such manner that our associations affairs will be managed by men who have the welfare of the farmer at heart or failing teresced in this action both as plainin that wind up its affairs so that tiffs and defendants are so numerons we will get all money due us from and deprive it of power to work us injury as it is duing now."

Below is set out the complaint in ally genrally:

Lee Walters, T. A. Green vell, Ed. their own right and for the use and benefit of five thousand others per Tenne-see who have a general interest in the subject matter of this in this action, set out herein, and in common with these plaintiffs -Plaintiffs.

Versus ginia, C. H. Fort, E T. Bondurant, F. G. Ewing, John D. Scales George Snodon, Mrs N E Green John B. Allen, Joel B Fort W. E Frazer, A N V. 1 J to M. Keagne, Farmer Tabas " and Storage comme District Warshouse commune to or designed as defendants.

O. Brown, Z. C Graham, and Charley E. Graham, partners doing business under the firm name of Z C Graham & Co., and McMurry -Defendants.

PETITION IN EQUITY.

The plaintiffs, Lee Walters, T. A. Greenwell, Ed Willett and J. M. er persons living and residing in the state of Kentucky and Tennessee each of whom have a common and general interest in the questions and matters set out, and for themselves in their own individual right, and for the use benefit of said 5,000 other persons, state that the persons and parties init that it is impractable to bring all of them before this court within a reasonable time or at all, and this action full and trul of the sait is certain to is now instituted and prosecuted by be looked to with interest by the to- these defendants for themselves, and bacco producers and the public gener for and on behalf of and for the use and benefit of all other persons, who have an interest in this action in com-Willest a d J. M. Fuller, each in mon with those plaintiffs and against all persons, whether natural persons sons, in the state of Kentucky and or corporations, who have an interest in the subject matter of this action action and the questions involved adver-e to these plaintiffs and are intended to be tackaded and embraced herein as defendants in this action and they ask the court to make all of Kentucky, Tennessee and Vir- other persons defendants who may hereafter, he made to appear to have an interest in the subject matter of his enters a laures to the interest of these plantiffs, not bessite named

(Continued next week.)